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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

World Summaries
CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

NOVEMBER 1957

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Foreign Agricultural Service
Washington 25, D.C.

WORLD COTTON EXPORTS EXPECTED TO DECLINE IN 1957-58

World cotton exports in 1957-58 are expected to decline about 1.2 million bales from the 1956-57 exports of 15.9 million bales (500 pounds gross weight), the largest in 30 years. Principal reasons for the expected decline include: the larger stocks of cotton and cotton products in foreign importing countries on August 1, 1957, and tightening of available supplies of dollar exchange in some important cotton importing countries, especially France, Japan, United Kingdom, and Spain.

A significant feature of world cotton trade in 1957-58 will be the change in the United States share of world exports. A drop of around 2.2 million bales expected in U. S. exports this season will likely be offset in part by an increase of about 1.0 million bales in exports from foreign Free World countries, to about 7.5 million (excluding reexports).

The increased exports from foreign Free World exporting countries will be drawn out of larger production, which is expected to increase by 0.5 million bales, and out of stocks which increased 0.5 million bales over the exceptionally low levels of a year earlier. Exports from Communist countries probably will be about the same as last season.

Despite the drop in U. S. exports from 7.9 million bales last season, the highest in 23 years, exports from the United States this season will probably be the second largest since 1951-52. The expected decline is attributable to the large increase in stocks of U. S. cotton in importing countries in 1956-57; the continuing decline in gold and dollar assets of many importing countries; and a slightly larger supply of foreign cotton (mostly extra long staple) available for export this year.

Foreign cotton production and consumption in 1957-58 are expected to be about the same as a year earlier. Recent reports from abroad indicate that in order to maintain the current high level of consumption, some foreign countries may reduce imports and draw to some extent on stocks.

Cotton trade between the Free World and Communist countries is expected to increase slightly in 1957-58 over a year earlier. Contributing to this are heavier purchases of cotton by the Soviet Union in Egypt, Sudan, and Syria, and the fact that cotton is a principal commodity exported to Communist countries in exchange for military equipment and food grains in the Middle East.

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(A Foreign Agriculture Circular containing 29 tables and more detailed information reporting world cotton trade has just been published and copies are available on request from the Foreign Agricultural Service.)

COTTON: World exports by country of origin, 1950-56

(Bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1						
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956 1/
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
NORTH AMERICA:							
Mexico	742	972	992	951	1,253	2,027	1,310
United States	4,280	5,711	3,181	3,914	3,585	2,320	7,913
Others	46	46	136	174	177	423	295
Total	5,068	6,729	4,309	5,039	5,015	4,770	9,518
ASIA:							
India	146	123	292	103	207	552	250
Iran	105	35	117	164	204	177	190
Iraq	31	19	9	3	11	19	16
Pakistan	1,039	919	1,273	893	634	723	506
Syria	106	169	182	183	330	366	365
Turkey	349	261	433	377	233	142	224
Others 2/	77	113	138	168	156	136	148
Total	1,853	1,639	2,444	1,891	1,775	2,115	1,699
SOUTH AMERICA:							
Argentina	274	5	271	157	103	2	51
Brazil	697	354	145	1,400	1,036	810	380
Paraguay	55	49	43	57	45	40	45
Peru	321	307	398	361	330	487	378
Others	2	0	5	4	0	0	0
Total	1,349	715	862	1,979	1,514	1,339	854
AFRICA:							
Angola	23	20	31	23	31	31	31
Belgian Congo	215	187	212	199	177	209	201
British East Africa	333	340	445	350	384	414	400
Egypt	1,532	908	1,727	1,485	1,081	1,433	924
French Equatorial Africa	120	108	170	98	158	165	155
French West Africa	5	15	13	4	24	30	40
Mozambique	112	140	148	180	144	135	100
Nigeria	75	45	95	137	140	159	102
Sudan	371	398	267	413	298	559	333
Others	15	20	29	26	20	24	27
Total	2,801	2,181	3,137	2,915	2,457	3,159	2,313
Other countries 3/	807	921	1,012	1,229	1,468	1,580	1,548
World total	11,878	12,185	11,764	13,053	12,229	12,963	15,932

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Mostly Burma. 3/ Mostly U.S.S.R.

Foreign Agricultural Service, Cotton Division. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches, results of office research, and other information.

WORLD COTTON STOCKS SHOW FIRST DECLINE SINCE 1951

World stocks of cotton on July 31, 1957, estimated at 22.8 million bales, were down 1.3 million bales from a year earlier.[1] This marked the first year that world stocks have declined since the postwar low of 11.8 million bales in 1951. The principal reason is that world consumption in 1956-57, continuing the steady increase of recent years, exceeded world production for the first time since 1950-51.

Notable features of the world cotton stocks situation in 1956-57 were the decrease of 3.3 million bales in United States stocks, and the increase of 2.0 million bales in stocks in foreign countries from the exceptionally low levels of a year earlier.

United States stocks of 11.2 million bales on July 31, 1957, were down 23 percent from the record high of 14.5 million a year earlier. This decline is attributable to a reduction of 1.7 million bales in U. S. production, and the sharp rebound in U. S. exports in 1956-57. It is significant that stocks in the U. S. at the beginning of the current season contained the smallest percentage (7) of Strick Middling and higher grades in the 30 years that carryover quality records are available.

In foreign Free World exporting countries cotton stocks of 3.3 million bales on July 31, 1957, were only 0.5 million bales higher than the low level of a year ago. Most foreign supplies of cotton available for export were moved in 1956-57, except in Sudan, Egypt, and Pakistan where prices stayed above the world level during most of the season. Foreign Free World importing countries replenished their low inventories of cotton in 1956-57 by 1.3 million bales (including cotton afloat, in transit, and in free ports). Much of the replenishment was with U. S. cotton which was made available for export at competitive world prices. Total stocks of 6.3 million bales in foreign Free World importing countries on August 1, 1957, represented about 38 percent of 1956-57 consumption in those countries and are considered adequate but not excessive.

World cotton stocks at the end of the current season (July 31, 1958) are expected to be about 2.6 million bales lower than at the beginning of the season because of an excess of this amount in expected world consumption over world production. Available data indicate that stocks in foreign countries (including Communist countries) on July 31, 1958 may be down by about 0.3 million bales from a year earlier.

Stocks in the United States at the end of the current season probably will be slightly under 9.0 bales, based on current estimates of 1957-58 supply and disappearance.

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(A Foreign Agriculture Circular containing more information regarding world cotton stocks has just been published by the Foreign Agricultural Service and is available free upon request).

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[1] Bales of 500 pounds gross weight, except U.S. cotton in running bales).

COTTON: Estimated world stocks, by principal countries, July 31, 1957, with comparisons 1/

(In bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country	Stocks on hand July 31			
	1939	1955	1956	1957
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Surplus countries:				
United States 2/	13,033	11,205	14,529	11,224
Mexico	150	300	100	105
El Salvador	3/ 2	55	35	60
Nicaragua	3/ 1	106	23	62
Iran	40	18	32	35
Pakistan	-	260	160	250
Syria	3/ 5	10	7	23
Turkey	70	150	180	140
Argentina	243	480	520	400
Brazil	661	825	650	550
Peru	200	335	235	282
Belgian Congo	150	120	115	100
British East Africa	75	45	47	80
Egypt	325	590	285	435
French Equatorial Africa	15	100	100	100
Sudan	107	320	200	479
Others 4/	1,058	1,187	1,057	1,424
Total surplus countries	16,135	16,106	18,275	15,749
Deficit countries:				
Canada	56	50	40	65
Belgium	150	130	102	145
France	700	390	365	560
Germany (Western)	3/ 300	280	245	400
Italy	250	159	160	275
Netherlands	80	81	80	120
Portugal	3/ 25	37	36	57
Spain	50	190	145	144
Sweden	60	104	88	101
Switzerland	100	92	79	128
United Kingdom	1,045	546	433	600
Yugoslavia	3/ 20	45	75	74
Hong Kong	3/ 5	45	60	85
India	5/ 2,165	2,300	1,840	1,750
Japan	556	425	485	665
Korea	43	50	25	44
Colombia	5	58	51	25
Australia	20	19	17	24
Others 6/	1,435	999	1,151	1,088
Total deficit countries	7,065	6,000	5,477	6,350
Afloat	550	400	400	700
World total	23,750	22,506	24,152	22,799

1/ Southern Hemisphere estimates include unginned cotton. 2/ Running bales. 3/ Estimates based on production, consumption, and trade data. 4/ Mostly U.S.S.R., Mozambique, and Greece. 5/ Includes Pakistan stocks. 6/ Mostly China and Eastern Europe.

Compiled from official and trade sources.

WORLD JUTE PRODUCTION ADEQUATE FOR 1958

World production of jute in 1957 is estimated at about 4,518 million pounds, compared with 4,569 million in 1956 and a prewar average of 3,422 million pounds. The output is expected to be adequate for world needs in 1958. Crop increases are reported in India, Taiwan, Japan, and most minor producing countries. The decrease, however, of 80 million pounds in Pakistan (the largest producer) together with small crop decreases in Brazil and Iran, brings the world total to about 51 million pounds less than in the preceding year.

Pakistan produced 58 percent of the current jute crop, India 38 percent, and Brazil 1.5 percent. Pakistan and India together have increased production over the prewar average by about 1,000 million pounds or 30 percent. The Brazilian crop of 66 million pounds in 1957 shows the rapid growth of production in that country from the prewar average of 113,000 pounds.

Pakistan furnishes almost all of the exports of raw jute to non-producing countries and roughly a third of the supply to Indian mills. The crop this year is estimated at about 2,400 million pounds from 1.5 million acres.

Carryover into the current crop year was estimated at 190 million pounds, or little different from a year ago. Raw jute consumption in Pakistan increased about 8 percent in 1956-57 over the preceding year. About 7,000 to 8,000 looms are scheduled to be in operation by the end of 1957, compared with an average of 5,227 in operation through 1956-57. Exports of jute goods have increased in value to third place among exports from Pakistan, exceeded only by raw jute and cotton.

Exports of raw jute in 1956-57 were 1,824.2 million pounds (preliminary) excluding unregistered quantities to India of possibly as much as 400 million pounds. A decrease in registered trade to India was reported in 1956-57. Exports to Belgium, West Germany, France, and the United States also decreased from the preceding year. The United Kingdom and Italy recorded increases in jute received.

In order to encourage exports for needed foreign exchange and to support the price at a profitable level the Jute Act was extended with an added clause giving power to the Central Government to secure fulfillment of any contract on which an exporter has defaulted. A Jute Marketing Corporation was established to regulate jute trade for stabilization of prices.

As a result of uncertainties arising from the application of various regulations, a Jute Inquiry Commission was appointed to examine and report on the situation of the industry from field to factory. The Export Price Control remains in effect. No change is expected this year in export duty.

The purchase price for raw jute in border districts has been raised slightly to discourage illegal sales. License fees have been abolished, but producers are urged to apply for free licenses to plant jute and thus register data for use in estimating crops.

Jute 1/: World production, by countries,
average 1935-39 and years 1954 to 1957

Country	5-year average 1935-39	Year of harvest			
		1954	1955	1956	1957 Preliminary
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Pakistan 2/	3/	2,000,000	2,720,000	2,720,000	2,640,000
India 2/	3/3,360,856	1,300,000	1,636,000	1,688,000	1,720,000
Taiwan (Formosa)	26,443	28,230	41,290	37,478	38,000
Iran	7,661	8,818	10,000	11,023	10,000
Japan	2,933	2,612	2,348	3,450	3,500
Brazil	113	51,416	53,938	69,809	66,136
Other countries 4/	23,730	16,224	20,424	39,240	40,364
Total	3,421,736	3,407,300	4,484,000	4,569,000	4,518,000

1/ Excludes mesta and other jute substitutes wherever separation is possible.
2/ Official estimates 1935-39. Beginning 1954, F.A.S. estimates based on official and trade information.
3/ Pakistan included with India.
4/ Excludes Communist China, Manchuria, and U.S.S.R.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Compiled from official statistics of foreign governments, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad, reliable trade sources, and estimates based on best available information.

Jute production in India is expected to be about 1,720 million pounds from 1,920,000 acres, or an increase in both acreage and production of about 2 percent over the 1956 crop. The Second 5-Year Plan fixes a target of 2,200 million pounds by 1960. Considerable attention is focused on improving the average yield of jute fiber per acre, but most of the producers have small acreages and do not have the capital to invest in needed improvements.

Indian mills consume all of the domestic crop of raw jute, and also about 560 million pounds of Indian grown mesta and between 250 and 300 million pounds of jute imported from Pakistan. More than half of the world supply of jute is consumed in India, and most of the Indian manufactures are exported. World consumption of jute goods was practically unchanged in the past 2 years, but Indian and European products lost some share of the market to Pakistan and some new producing countries in Asia.

Stocks carried over into 1957-58 in India are estimated at 292 million pounds, or lower than in preceding years. The continued high cost level for raw fiber and the prospects of an adequate supply have tended to hold down mill purchases and keep stocks relatively low. Prices of both raw jute and jute manufactures have been higher in 1956-57 than in the preceding year. The average price of raw jute in Calcutta was about 8 cents a pound in 1956-57 compared with 7.4 cents in the preceding year.

Jute production in Brazil this year was 66.1 million pounds. This was less than expected because the Amazon River did not rise in time for proper harvesting and transportation of the fiber.

Producers requested permission from the Brazilian Government to export more than 2 million pounds of jute, but a special rate of exchange would be needed and there is little indication now that this fiber could be readily marketed abroad. No action has been taken on a request for a minimum price for sale of jute in domestic market centers.

Brazilian factory stocks of jute bags and cloth are estimated at nearly 10,000 long tons. The large supply is attributed to the effect of fewer bags needed for the smaller coffee crop of 1956-57. These stocks may be taken up, however, if the expected increase materializes in the new coffee crop. Disposal of Brazilian-made bags in foreign markets is difficult because of the difference in specifications.

WORLD WOOL PRODUCTION BELOW EARLIER ESTIMATES

Serious drought in Australia and the revision of Argentine output figures have resulted in lower-than-earlier estimates of world wool production for 1956 and 1957. This overshadows an upward revision of estimates for Uruguay and New Zealand. No substantial change has been reported for other producing countries (see supplemental World Summaries issue of Foreign Crops and Markets for September, 1957).

World wool production is now estimated at 5,020 million pounds, greasy basis, compared with 4,960 million pounds in 1956. This is 75 million pounds below the earlier estimate for 1957, but still slightly over 1 percent above last year's total. The rise this year, if realized, will mark the tenth successive year of increases in wool production. A greater increment to world production this season had been previously forecast because of high wool prices and higher consumption relative to production last season.

The Foreign Agricultural Service estimates Australian wool production at only 1,550 million pounds because of the drought in the major producing areas. The National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia recently announced that the official figures will be revised and "present indications are for a decrease of not less than 5 percent." In Western New South Wales and adjoining areas, drought conditions have seriously threatened sheep numbers and considerable hand feeding of sheep has been necessary.

WOOL: Estimated production in specified countries (greasy basis), Averages 1936-40 and 1946-50, Annual 1953-57 1/

Country	Average 1936-40	Average 1946-50	1953	1954	1955	1956 2/	1957 2/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Australia..........	1,052	1.060	1,246	1,283	1,410	1,565	1,550
New Zealand.........	314	375	426	455	462	491	497
Argentina...........	411	450	400	365	357	364	379
Union of South Africa 3/.........	252	216	279	281	294	301	311
United States 5/....	471	318	302	310	305	300	295
Uruguay.............	126	163	202	198	172	174	209
Total..........	2,626	2,582	2,855	2,892	3,000	3,195	3,241
All Others 4/.......	1,395	1,330	1,640	1,670	1,720	1,765	1,780
Total 4/.......	4,020	3,910	4,495	4,560	4,720	4,960	5,020

1/ Wool produced mostly in the spring in the Northern Hemisphere is combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 in the Southern Hemisphere. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Excluding karakul. 4/ Rounded to 5 millions. 5/ Converted pulled wool to greasy basis at 1.7.

In Argentina, production is expected to be 379 million pounds in 1957 as compared with 364 million pounds in 1956 and 357 million pounds in 1955. This shows a much more gradual increase than previously forecast. These estimates are made jointly by breeders and district agents of wool dealers under the auspices of the Argentine Wool Federation. The Federation reports that official figures were considerably above their estimates but are now being adjusted closer to theirs.

The new wool clip in Uruguay is now estimated at 209 million pounds, an increase of 20 percent over last season's total of 174 million pounds. The increase is attributed mainly to a larger holdover of lambs for wool production from the last crop, estimated as high as four million above normal holdovers. The full impact of this was not realized at the time of the previous forecast, accounting for the increase in the present estimate.

In New Zealand, a slight increase in wool production to 497 million pounds is expected, compared with a 6 percent increase last season. The rate of increase this season is adversely affected by the large amount of "second shearing" which took place last season. "Second shear" wool accounted for 4 percent of total shorn wool last season and 2 percent in the 1955 season.

In the United States, a continuation of the slight downward trend of recent years is expected to continue in 1957 but may cease in 1958, as range conditions in the West have been the best for some years. Demand for breeding stock is reportedly high and slaughter of sheep and lambs recently has been low relative to a year earlier.

WORLD RICE CROP FORECAST AT NEAR-RECORD LEVEL

World rice production in 1957-58 (August-July) is forecast at a near-record level. Though one percent below the record crop of the preceding year, it is well above the relatively high level of 2 years before. The 1957-58 total harvest is estimated at 434,500 million pounds of rough rice compared with 438,500 million in 1956-57, and with 428,000 million pounds in 1955-56.

World rice acreage in 1957-58 set a new record, but unfavorable weather reduced the yield per acre in some large areas. These new acreages are part of a continuing increase in rice cultivation during the last decade.

Total world acreage is forecast at 270 million acres compared with 268 million in 1956-57, and with 263 million acres in 1955-56. It is 36 million acres more than in the 5-year, 1945-46/49-50, average period, and 14 million larger than average in the years, 1950-51/54-55.

The largest net increase in acreage is in Asia, though percentage-wise the greatest gain is in the countries of Africa. The acreage of Europe is up slightly, and Oceania is expected to approximate that of the year before. Indications point to an increase in the acreage of South America, though it is too early to predict accurately the area to be put into rice. North America is the only continent that shows a decrease, solely due to a further reduction in the United States acreage.

Asia's production is forecast at one percent below that of 1956-57, but 2 percent more than 2 years earlier. Acreage is forecast at a slightly larger estimate than in 1956-57, and 3 percent above 1955-56. Rice production in China is reported to be above the poor crop of the year before. Unfavorable weather, however, prevented the harvesting of as high per acre yields as had been anticipated.

India's 1957-58 crop dropped sharply due to October drought in 4 important rice States (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 12, 1957). Though another record acreage was planted, and growing conditions were excellent at the outset of the season, the prospects now are for the smallest crop since 1954-55.

Japan increased rice acreage slightly, and a crop second only to the record of 2 years ago is being harvested. A very good crop was produced also in the Republic of Korea as a result of good weather and increased use of fertilizers.

Pakistan's rice crop was in good condition in the first part of the growing season. If conditions continue favorable through December, that country should harvest a larger crop than in the preceding year.

The acreage planted and to be planted in Malaya is expected to approximate that of last year. The unusually high yields per acre attained last year probably will not materialize, but nevertheless, a very good crop is in prospect. Drought in Ceylon again is adversely affecting the rice crop, so that the crop probably will be reduced again this year.

In the Philippine Republic both rice acreage and yields per acre increased again this year. Though a new record crop is being harvested, it is not as large as at first anticipated.

The total production in Burma and Thailand - two countries accounting for over half of world rice exports in 1957 - is estimated at 32,400 million pounds of rough rice, a moderate decrease below the 34,240 million pounds estimated for the year before. Burma's harvest is expected to approximate the very good crop of last year, but production in Thailand is down about 10 percent. In Indonesia, production is expected to be slightly below each of the two preceding years.

Rice production in the West Asian countries is estimated at 2,000 million pounds of rough rice compared with 1,800 million pounds in the year before, and with the average of 1,900 million pounds in the 5-year, 1950-54, period. Good crops are being harvested in Iran, Iraq, and Turkey.

Rice production in Eastern Europe is estimated to be 16 percent above that of the year before. Total acreage was maintained nearly at last year's record level. Because of generally favorable weather, the outturn was well above average in all the countries.

RICE (rough): Acreege, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, avereges 1945-46/49-50 and 1950-51/54-55, annual 1955-56 to 1957-58 (August-July) 1/

Continent and country	Acreage					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average					Average					Average				
	1945-46 to 1949-50	1950-51 to 1954-55	1955-56	1956-57 2/	1957-58 2/	1945-46 to 1949-50	1950-51 to 1954-55	1955-56	1956-57 2/	1957-58 2/	1945-46 to 1949-50	1950-51 to 1954-55	1955-56	1956-57 2/	1957-58 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acree	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA:															
Costa Rica	41	69	95	92	92	1,078	1,207	789	1,196	924	44.2	83.3	75.0	110.0	85.0
El Salvador	41	44	43	38	-	1,461	1,430	1,509	1,613	-	59.9	62.9	64.9	61.3	-
Guatemala	18	21	20	19	-	944	1,043	1,140	1,121	-	17.0	21.9	22.8	21.3	-
Honduras	25	27	29	32	32	952	915	945	928	938	23.8	24.7	27.4	29.7	30.0
Mexico	190	235	237	284	311	1,731	1,574	1,954	1,901	1,842	328.9	369.9	463.0	540.0	573.0
Nicaragua	28	66	48	62	70	1,286	1,298	990	1,210	929	36.0	85.7	47.5	75.0	65.0
Panama	124	180	214	210	210	1,173	1,159	1,007	1,028	824	145.5	208.7	215.6	215.9	173.0
United States	1,690	2,068	1,826	1,564	1,350	2,100	2,419	3,061	3,031	3,102	3,548.5	5,002.6	5,590.2	4,740.2	4,287.7
Cuba	114	174	330	400	400	1,333	1,839	1,439	1,425	1,500	152.0	320.0	475.0	570.0	600.0
Dominican Republic	100	112	117	120	-	1,373	1,703	1,915	1,875	-	137.3	190.7	224.0	225.0	-
Jamaica	6	10	23	18	-	1,717	1,710	1,739	2,056	-	10.3	17.1	40.0	37.0	-
Total	2,473	3,095	3,071	2,924	2,763	-	-	-	-	-	4,625.7	6,514.5	7,368.4	6,737.9	6,274.2
EUROPE:															
France	7	43	51	58	67	2,586	3,435	3,490	3,741	3,955	18.1	147.7	178.0	217.0	265.0
Greece	9	44	44	29	35	2,167	3,152	3,068	3,293	3,714	19.5	138.7	135.0	95.5	130.0
Italy	305	409	416	341	322	4,357	4,600	4,663	4,194	4,658	1,328.9	1,881.4	1,940.0	1,430.0	1,500.0
Portugal	53	80	93	96	93	3,013	3,841	4,343	3,755	4,140	159.7	307.3	403.9	360.5	385.0
Spain	129	160	152	157	160	4,358	4,737	5,329	5,013	5,312	562.2	757.9	810.0	787.0	850.0
Yugoslavia	7	10	19	14	15	1,414	2,750	3,016	3,307	3,527	9.9	27.5	57.3	46.3	52.9
Total	510	746	775	695	692	-	-	-	-	-	2,098.3	3,260.5	3,524.2	2,936.3	3,182.9
Other Europe	49	141	218	210	235	-	-	-	-	-	103.2	282.5	271.2	404.0	483.0
Total Europe	559	887	993	905	927	-	-	-	-	-	2,201.5	3,543.0	3,795.4	3,340.3	3,665.9
ASIA:															
Iran	539	557	600	620	610	1,613	1,750	1,183	1,774	1,754	869.3	974.7	710.0	1,100.0	1,070.0
Iraq	643	545	400	425	460	993	1,151	775	824	1,196	638.4	627.2	310.0	350.0	550.0
Syria	19	11	10	7	7	2,026	2,391	2,340	2,857	2,857	38.5	26.3	23.4	20.0	20.0
Turkey	56	99	71	104	110	2,900	2,876	2,844	2,928	2,909	162.4	284.7	201.9	304.5	320.0
Burma	8,500	10,780	10,950	11,150	11,400	1,235	1,289	1,315	1,426	1,395	10,500.0	13,900.0	14,400.0	15,900.0	15,900.0
Ceylon	890	920	1,033	900	-	1,112	1,330	1,458	1,333	-	990.0	1,223.4	1,506.0	1,200.0	-
China	54,400	59,200	62,100	64,000	64,500	2,316	2,259	2,343	2,297	2,310	126,000.0	133,730.0	145,500.0	147,000.0	149,000.0
India 3/	71,500	75,434	76,864	78,200	79,000	1,063	1,084	1,175	1,210	1,114	76,000.0	81,750.0	90,283.1	94,650.0	88,000.0
Indochina 3/ 4/															
Cambodia	2,298	2,838	2,300	2,600	2,400	798	999	1,102	1,254	833	1,833.1	2,836.1	2,535.3	3,260.0	2,000.0
Laos	1,500	1,391	1,500	1,530	-	650	697	733	752	-	975.0	970.0	1,100.0	1,150.0	-
South Vietnam	3,037	3,440	4,274	4,380	-	1,103	1,223	1,161	1,233	-	3,349.2	4,208.4	4,960.8	5,400.0	-
Indonesia	15,070	15,929	16,535	16,600	-	1,281	1,448	1,498	1,494	-	19,300.0	23,057.3	24,761.3	24,800.0	24,000.0
Japan 5/	7,100	7,423	7,950	7,970	7,970	3,462	3,394	4,272	3,750	3,964	24,580.3	25,190.0	33,959.7	29,885.1	31,596.1

ASIA (Continued)															
South Korea	2,676	2,550	2,691	2,710	2,725	2,272	2,569	2,601	2,214	2,642	6,080.8	6,550.0	7,000.0	6,000.0	7,200.0
Malaya	831	836	860	889	875	1,362	1,739	1,737	1,950	1,829	1,132.1	1,453.4	1,493.8	1,733.8	1,600.0
Nepal	3,200	3,250	3,250	3,200	-	750	757	831	719	-	2,400.0	2,460.0	2,700.0	2,300.0	-
Pakistan 3/	21,664	23,227	21,904	22,445	23,000	1,241	1,206	1,107	1,356	1,348	26,888.2	28,019.2	24,243.9	30,441.9	31,000.0
Philippine Republic	4,963	6,264	6,777	6,877	6,950	998	1,054	1,065	1,078	1,081	4,952.8	6,603.3	7,216.2	7,416.6	7,516.0
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,638	1,912	1,935	1,950	-	1,829	2,388	2,722	2,698	-	2,996.7	4,565.0	5,266.4	5,262.0	-
Thailand	10,214	13,153	13,283	14,445	13,500	1,173	1,162	1,217	1,270	1,222	11,978.4	15,281.2	16,167.7	18,340.0	16,500.0
Total	219,070	238,032	243,688	249,558	250,609	-	-	-	-	-	331,988.5	364,025.3	395,444.0	406,909.9	402,109.5
SOUTH AMERICA:															
Argentina	102	140	134	126	-	2,674	2,815	2,701	2,883	-	272.7	394.1	362.0	363.3	-
Brazil 3/	4,290	5,362	6,293	5,800	-	1,423	1,340	1,334	1,379	-	6,105.7	7,182.5	8,398.0	8,000.0	-
British Guiana	97	134	144	134	-	2,343	2,087	1,979	2,164	-	227.3	279.7	285.0	290.0	-
Chile	79	68	70	70	-	2,578	2,507	1,793	2,601	-	203.7	170.5	125.5	182.1	-
Colombia	300	404	465	490	510	1,342	1,445	1,538	1,520	1,471	402.6	583.6	715.0	745.0	750.0
Ecuador	203	158	145	160	-	1,768	1,823	1,586	1,875	-	359.0	288.0	230.0	300.0	-
Paraguay	14	23	22	-	-	2,043	1,730	1,905	-	-	28.6	39.8	41.9	-	-
Peru	120	152	157	151	155	3,022	3,632	3,331	3,245	-	362.6	552.1	523.0	490.0	-
Surinam	41	48	53	62	56	2,490	2,638	2,685	2,531	2,411	102.1	126.6	142.3	156.9	135.0
Uruguay	29	38	47	47	-	2,855	3,095	3,104	2,672	-	82.8	117.6	145.9	125.6	-
Venezuela	50	100	135	100	105	1,100	1,200	1,222	1,250	1,143	55.0	120.0	165.0	125.0	120.0
Total	5,355	6,667	7,708	7,211	7,555	-	-	-	-	-	8,246.1	9,913.7	11,193.6	10,885.9	11,150.0
AFRICA:															
Belgian Congo	342	410	413	410	-	813	915	988	951	-	278.0	375.0	408.0	390.0	-
Egypt	732	539	623	716	758	3,347	3,394	4,635	4,845	4,835	2,450.3	1,829.3	2,887.5	3,468.8	3,665.0
French West Africa	1,850	1,985	1,930	2,025	-	595	616	718	741	-	1,100.0	1,222.6	1,385.0	1,500.0	-
Madagascar	1,433	1,694	2,100	-	-	1,174	1,311	1,260	-	-	1,682.6	2,221.1	2,645.0	-	-
Morocco	1	10	19	17	12	700	3,660	3,474	3,882	3,667	0.7	36.6	66.0	66.0	44.0
Total	6,473	7,002	7,690	7,724	8,026	-	-	-	-	-	7,498.0	7,936.4	9,926.1	10,328.6	11,041.4
OCEANIA:															
Australia	31	37	42	55	55	4,042	4,603	4,657	3,309	-	125.3	170.3	195.6	182.0	-
Fiji	32	35	34	-	-	1,894	1,649	1,529	-	-	60.6	57.7	52.0	-	-
Total	98	108	111	127	128	-	-	-	-	-	221.6	268.0	286.6	281.0	-
World total	234,028	255,791	263,261	268,449	270,008	-	-	-	-	-	354,781.4	392,200.9	428,014.1	438,483.6	434,526.0

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Planted acreage. 4/ Estimates for Center and North Vietnam included in world totals only. 5/ New series beginning 1955 on somewhat higher level than earlier years.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States officers, results of office research and other information.

Even though Italy decreased acreage 6 percent, its rice crop was larger than last year. The acreage of Portugal declined slightly, but production also increased over last year. France continued its expansion of rice acreage and very high yields per acre were harvested. The rice area of Greece was larger than last year, but was below that of 2 years earlier.

Rice production in North America is 7 percent below that of the previous year because of decreased acreage and bad weather in Central America.

The United States rice crop is 10 percent below the 1956 crop and 14 percent less than average in the 5-year period 1950-54. Acreage continued to be held under acreage allotments. Production in Cuba is expected to exceed last year's large crop. The acreage in rice is tentatively estimated at the high level of the year before. Because of increased plantings of the disease resistant native Honduras variety, however, the yield per acre is expected to be higher than last year.

WORLD COTTON CONSUMPTION LIKELY TO BE SLIGHTLY HIGHER, AND PRODUCTION LOWER IN 1957-58

Outstanding features of the world cotton supply and demand situation in 1957-58 are:

(1) A prospective slight increase in consumption outside the United States over last year's record level.

(2) A 4-percent decrease in world production, with most of the decrease in the United States.

(3) Adequate to moderately high stocks in importing countries to be maintained in most countries.

(4) Low August 1 stocks in foreign exporting countries except Sudan, Egypt, and Pakistan.

Most foreign exporting countries are expected to dispose of practically all surpluses from the 1957-58 crops with stocks at the end of the current season about equal to those at the beginning.

Anticipated consumption of 30.6 million bales outside the United States in 1957-58 is 5.7 million bales higher than estimated foreign production. United States exports should approximate the difference between foreign consumption and foreign production plus or minus any changes in stocks held outside the United States.

Expected minor reductions in stocks held in some countries indicate a probable United States 1957-58 export total of around 5.5 million running bales. World exports are expected to total about 14.5 million bales (including United States cotton in running bales), reflecting a reduction of 2.1 million in the United States and an increase of about 0.9 million in other countries.

COTTON: World stocks, production, consumption, and exports seasons beginning August 1, 1954-55 through 1957-58

Item and area	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57 1/	1957-58 Estimated 1/
	Million bales 2/	Million bales 2/	Million bales 2/	Million bales 2/
Stocks, beginning:				
United States	9.7	11.2	14.5	11.2
Foreign free world,				
exporting countries	3.8	4.0	2.8	3.3
importing countries 3/	5.8	5.6	5.0	6.3
Communist countries	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.0
World total	21.0	22.5	24.1	22.8
Production:				
United States 4/	13.7	14.7	13.0	5/ 11.7
Foreign free world	15.8	16.1	15.8	16.3
Communist countries	9.0	8.9	9.2	8.6
World total	38.5	39.7	38.0	36.6
Consumption: 6/				
United States	8.8	9.2	8.6	8.6
Foreign free world,				
exporting countries	3.8	4.1	4.4	4.4
importing countries	15.0	15.1	16.4	16.7
Communist countries	9.2	9.5	9.6	9.4
World total	36.8	37.9	39.0	39.1
Exports:				
United States	3.4	2.2	7.6	5.5
Foreign free world	7.3	9.3	6.7	7.6
Communist countries	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4
World total	12.3	12.9	15.7	14.5
Exports, net, free world to Communist	.2	.7	.7	1.0

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Bales of 500 pounds gross, except United States in running bales.
3/ Includes afloat figures. 4/ Ginnings in season.
5/ U.S.D.A. crop report as of November 1, 1957.
6/ Does not include cotton destroyed or unaccounted for.

(A Foreign Agriculture Circular containing more detailed information on the world cotton supply and demand situation has just been published by the Foreign Agricultural Service and is available free upon request).

WORLD SUGAR PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO CLIMB

World production of centrifugal sugar for 1957-58 is estimated at 47.7 million short tons, raw value compared to 45.5 million tons in 1956-57, 43.4 million in 1955-56 and 28.4 million in the 1935-36/39-40 period. This is an increase of 4.9 percent over the previous record crop (1956-57) and 67.7 percent over the prewar average.

Non-centrifugal sugar output is estimated at 6.8 million short tons, tel quel, or as made, which is an increase of 114,000 tons over the previous year. This is slightly larger than the 1955-56 output but smaller than the record crop of 1954-55.

World cane sugar production for 1957-58 is expected to be 28.8 million tons, an increase of 1.3 million tons above the 1956-57 crop and 12.2 million more than the prewar average. All continents show an increase.

World beet sugar increased to 18.9 million tons, due partly to the large crop in Europe, estimated at 10.9 million tons, and to the record crop in North America.

North and Central America: Production of centrifugal cane and beet sugar in 1957-58 is expected to be 15.1 million tons compared to the latest estimate for 1956-57 of 14.4 million tons.

The United States and its territories probably will increase production to 5.1 million tons during 1957-58 crop year compared to 4.6 million produced in 1956-57. The Virgin Islands which suffered severe drought, is the only territory where production has decreased. Mainland beet sugar increased 11.2 percent to 2,175,000 tons; cane sugar increased even more percentage-wise to 650,000 tons. Mexico's production is forecast to be 1.3 million, an 8.3 percent increase over the previous year.

It has been reported that Cuba, the largest centrifugal-sugar-producing country in the world, probably will restrict the 1957-58 production to 6,250,000 short tons. The 1956-57 unrestricted crop was 6,252,000 tons, an increase of 1,023,000 tons over the 1955-56.

Europe: Sugar production during the 1957-58 season is expected to be 10.9 million tons compared to a yield of 10.2 million in 1956-57 and 7.3 million in the 1935-36/39-40 period.

Good growing conditions in most countries are resulting in large increases in production, notably the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Poland. United Kingdom's crop suffered from poor seeding conditions and from virus yellow reducing the beet yield and sugar content.

Although weather conditions improved in July the sugar production is not likely to be much over the estimated figure of 650,000 tons. Ireland has a better beet crop than last year which is expected to produce 145,000 tons of sugar.

U.S.S.R.: Weather reports from the Soviet Union indicate variable weather conditions including reports of dry weather during the summer months. The beet crop is expected to be smaller than last year, while the sugar content probably will be slightly higher, resulting in a sugar estimate of 4.8 million tons compared to 5.0 million tons produced in 1956-57.

Asia: The production in Asia climbed from 5.2 million tons in the prewar period to 6.6 million in 1956-57 and an expected 7.1 million in 1957-58. This expected increase over last year is due principally to the increase of 155,000 tons in India and 69,000 tons in Indonesia. Other countries showed small increases or produced the same as last year. India, more than any other Asian country, is increasing its output of centrifugal sugar. Little is known about Communist China but all indications are this country is increasing it production by 100,000 tons this year.

South America: The production in South America increased from 5.3 million tons in 1956-57 to 5.6 million in 1957-58. This is an increase of 5.6 percent while the increase over the prewar period is 164.4 percent. This large increase is mostly the result of greater production in Brazil.

Africa: The African production is expected to be slightly larger than last year, mainly because of the increase in the Union of South Africa.

Oceania: Total production is forecast at 1.6 million tons for 1957-58 while the final estimate for 1956-57 is 1.5 million tons. Both Australia and Fiji increased sugar estimates slightly.

(Tables on following pages)

The Commodity Summaries in this monthly supplementary issue of Foreign Crops and Markets are part of a series of reports on World Crop and Livestock Production and Trade which are released according to a schedule published at the beginning of each calendar year.

The country data are prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments;reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad; results of office research and other information. The Summaries of Production have been approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics.

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (raw value): Production in epecified countries, averagee 1935/36-39/40, 1945/46-49/50, annual 1954/55-57/58 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Averages		1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58 3/
	1935/36-1939/40	1945/46-1949/50				
	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tone	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tone	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons
North America (cane and beet):						
British Honduras	1	1	5	6	8	8
Canada (beet)	76	99	128	142	131	140
Costa Rica	9	20	38	27	32	35
El Salvador	17	27	41	42	46	54
Guatemala	19	33	56	63	70	69
Honduras	-	2	9	10	13	15
Mexico	353	636	1,041	869	1,187	1,285
Nicaragua	9	20	42	35	45	48
Panama	5	11	17	19	25	25
United States (beet)	1,517	1,514	2,043	1,739	1,956	2,175
United Statee (cane)	474	455	610	574	557	650
Hawaii	980	861	1,140	1,100	1,100	1,150
Puerto Rico	982	1,143	1,166	1,152	990	1,150
Virgin Islands	5	6	10	13	15	10
Antigua	22	25	22	32	35	35
Barbados	114	121	169	147	207	205
Cuba	3,183	5,898	5,001	5,229	6,252	6,250
Dominican Republic	491	509	677	774	800	850
Ouadeloupe	60	48	129	143	132	130
Haiti	44	49	58	64	63	63
Jamaica	119	235	444	406	409	425
Martinique	64	29	90	95	88	95
St. Kitts	36	40	55	56	50	50
St. Lucia and St. Vincent	11	12	17	16	14	14
Trinidad and Tobago	149	144	216	179	188	190
Total North America	8,740	11,938	13,224	12,932	14,413	15,121
Europe (beet):						
Austria	196	46	229	234	236	227
Belgium	259	246	382	427	358	390
Denmark	260	266	243	303	380	430
Finland	13	13	41	28	36	32
France	1,078	823	1,860	1,799	1,546	1,650
Germany, Fed. Rep.	610	523	1,444	1,428	1,270	1,650
Ireland	89	95	111	109	110	145
Italy	414	331	968	1,297	1,099	960
Netherlands	261	270	465	469	386	410
Spain 4/	202	200	327	395	475	410
Sweden	340	311	5/ 335	5/ 265	5/ 337	5/ 369
Switzerland	13	28	37	37	37	37
United Kingdom	515	612	699	771	861	650
Total	4,250	3,764	7,141	7,562	7,131	7,360
Poland	990	597	1,268	1,201	950	1,300
Yugoelavia	103	127	159	143	182	230
Other Europe	1,936	1,439	2,295	2,137	1,931	2,080
Total Europe	7,279	5,927	10,863	11,043	10,194	10,970
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) (beet)	2,761	1,643	3,025	4,200	5,000	4,800

Asia (cane and beet):						
Afghanistan (beet)	-	3	6	6	7	7
Burma	27	10	20	20	32	55
China, Mainland 6/	87	77	230	250	300	400
India	1,303	1,319	2,085	2,400	2,545	2,700
Indonesia	1,207	102	791	944	866	935
Iran (beet)	23	41	76	92	103	107
Japan (beet)	46	11	49	59	72	102
Pakistan	33	34	105	124	128	130
Philippines	1,058	384	1,372	1,218	1,154	1,200
Syria (beet)	0	0	9	6	7	8
Taiwan	1,240	378	832	876	955	960
Thailand	21	28	49	58	72	75
Turkey (beet)	76	131	219	312	339	370
Vietnam	7/ 77	7/ 11	8/ 3	8/ 3	8/ 4	8/ 6
Total Asia (excl. U.S.S.R.)	5,198	2,529	5,846	6,368	6,584	7,055
South America (cane):						
Argentina	510	654	908	687	860	725
Bolivia	1	2	9	21	26	26
Brazil	830	1,420	2,479	2,464	2,623	2,988
British Guiana	210	198	280	295	319	320
Chile (beet)	-	-	8	14	25	35
Colombia	51	135	298	273	280	290
Ecuador	24	44	61	82	80	88
Paraguay	6	16	19	15	22	28
Peru	444	485	730	774	785	840
Surinam	15	5	8	8	8	8
Uruguay 6/	2	3	37	26	39	40
Venezuela	8/ 22	8/ 41	156	248	228	204
Total South America	2,115	3,003	4,993	4,907	5,295	5,592
Africa (cane):						
Algeria	0	0	3	4	4	4
Angola	37	50	56	53	66	61
Belgian Congo	14	17	20	22	20	22
British East Africa	63	88	85	116	141	146
Egypt	166	211	346	340	331	335
Ethiopia, Eritrea and Italian Somoliland	0	0	17	20	28	34
Madagascar	16	14	20	29	35	50
Madeira and Azore Islands 6/	9	9	12	12	12	12
Mauritius	320	351	551	588	631	595
Mozambique	81	86	109	140	157	160
Rhodesias and Nyasaland	-	-	4	4	7	7
Reunion	91	81	194	195	213	215
Union of South Africa	498	542	829	939	849	920
Total Africa	1,295	1,449	2,246	2,462	2,494	2,561
Oceania (cane)						
Australia	894	830	1,436	1,275	1,353	1,400
Fiji	150	131	149	180	148	190
Total Oceania	1,044	961	1,585	1,455	1,501	1,590
World total (cane)	16,658	18,086	25,272	25,676	27,539	28,837
World total (beet)	11,774	9,364	16,510	17,691	17,942	18,852
World total (beet and cane)	28,432	27,450	41,782	43,367	45,481	47,689

1/ Centrifugal sugar, as distinguished from non-centrifugal, includes cane and beet sugar produced by the centrifugal process, which is the principal kind moving in international trade. 2/ Years shown are May to April crop year. Generally the harvesting season begins in the fall months or in the first month of the calendar year except in certain cane-producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere as Australia, Argentina, Mauritius, Union of South Africa, etc., where the season begins in May or June. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Includes a small amount of cane. 5/ Includes sugar from Danish beets processed in Sweden. 6/ Includes both beet and cane sugar. 7/ Centrifugal and non-centrifugal sugar for all of Indochina. 8/ Calendar year.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official publications of foreign governments, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad and other information.

NON-CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR: Production in specified countries, averages 1935/36-39/40, 1945/46-49/50, annual 1954/55-57/58 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Averages 1935/36-1939/40	Averages 1945/46-1949/50	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58 3/
	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons
North America:						
Costa Rica	15	36	33	26	28	30
El Salvador	17	27	27	25	25	20
Guatemala	31	35	55	51	48	45
Honduras	15	22	21	21	20	20
Mexico	83	174	132	132	132	130
Nicaragua	7	14	25	25	25	25
Panama	2	9	10	10	10	10
Total	170	317	303	290	288	280
Asia:						
Burma	86	74	125	160	165	150
Cambodia	4/	4/	-	33	33	33
China	350	307	540	600	600	700
India	2,954	3,338	3,330	3,050	3,100	3,000
Indonesia	81	40	275	328	275	300
Japan	20	15	25	29	25	20
Pakistan	710	575	1,345	1,100	1,100	1,200
Philippines	63	44	55	50	70	70
Taiwan	32	6	16	22	30	30
Thailand	17	22	33	33	33	30
Viet Nam	4/	4/	6	12	15	20
Total	4,313	4,421	5,750	5,417	5,446	5,553
South America:						
Brazil	370	395	300	300	300	300
Colombia	490	755	610	610	495	500
Ecuador	15	18	25	25	25	25
Peru	9	25	30	31	31	31
Venezuela	60	110	80	66	70	80
Total	944	1,303	1,045	1,032	921	936
World total	5,427	6,041	7,098	6,739	6,655	6,769

1/ Non-centrifugal sugar includes all types of sugar produced by other than centrifugal process which is largely for consumption on the relatively few areas where produced. The estimates include such kinds known as piloncillo, panelo, papelon, chancaca, rapadura, jaggery, gur, muscovado, panocha, etc.

2/ Years shown are May to April crop year. Generally the harvesting season begins in the fall months or in the first months of the calendar year except in certain cane-producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere where the season begins in May or June.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ Included in centrifugal sugar production.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official publications of foreign governments, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad and other information.

WORLD FLAXSEED PRODUCTION DOWN IN 1957

World production of flaxseed in 1957 is estimated by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 143.8 million bushels. This is a decline of 15 per cent from the near-record 168.7 million bushels produced in 1956 but is one-fifth larger than the 1950-54 average.

The estimated 25 million-bushel reduction from last year is attributed to the sharp declines in 3 of the 4 major producing countries--the United States, Canada, and India. According to pre-harvest forecasts, the Argentine crop is up substantially.

Flaxseed production in North America this year is down an estimated 40 per cent from last year. Canadian farmers planted 15 per cent more acreage to flaxseed than last year and 3.5 times the 1950-54 average, but the average yield of 6.6 bushels per acre is the lowest in 10 years. Hot, dry weather in July was the main cause of the low yields. In addition, however, several hail storms in Saskatchewan, the principal producing area, severely damaged the crop in many districts and a virus, "aster yellows," damaged the crop in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Production, estimated at 23.1 million bushels, is down one-third from the 1956 record outturn but is the second largest crop in the last 45 years. With a record carryover of 7.3 million bushels, the total supply available during the current marketing year, estimated at 30 million bushels, is second only to that of last year.

Flaxseed production in the United States in 1957 is estimated at 27.1 million bushels, somewhat more than half the 1956 crop and about one-fourth less than the 1950-54 average. The yield per acre, indicated at 5.1 bushels is the lowest since 1936, and is attributed to unusually high temperatures in July and August, followed by wet weather from mid-August until late September, and the widespread incidence of "aster yellows."

The U. S. supply of flaxseed in the 1957-58 marketing year probably will be needed for domestic requirements. Consequently, no exports from the 1957 crop are anticipated. (The 9 million bushels exported since July 1 were from Commodity Credit Corporation sales of 1956-crop flaxseed.)

Mexico's flaxseed crop is reported to be about one-fourth less than in 1956, owing largely to drought conditions in Jalisco.

European production may be up slightly, largely because of an indicated increase in France, which is partially offset by smaller crops in the Netherlands and Belgium.

The estimated 2 million-bushel (13 per cent) decline in Asia's flaxseed production is attributed to the decrease in India. The Indian harvest at about 14 million bushels was the smallest since 1952. The decline was due to a slightly smaller acreage and unfavorable weather during the growing period.

FLAXSEED: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries and the world, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1955-57 1/

Continent and country	Harvested acreage					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average 1935-39	Average 1950-54	1955	1956	1957 2/	Average 1935-39	Average 1950-54	1955	1956	1957 2/	Average 1935-39	Average 1950-54	1955	1956	1957 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:															
Canada	307	1,010	1,838	3,041	3,486	5.1	9.5	10.7	11.3	6.6	1,508	9,654	19,748	34,463	23,079
Mexico	16	118	25	37	30	6.9	15.4	15.9	13.8	13.3	111	1,869	394	512	394
United States	1,451	4,306	4,981	5,545	5,335	7.4	8.7	8.3	8.8	5.1	10,991	36,809	41,243	48,712	27,060
Total	1,774	5,434	6,844	8,623	8,851	---	---	---	---	---	12,610	48,332	61,385	83,687	50,533
Europe:															
Austria 3/	5	3	2	1	---	7.1	---	---	---	---	36	---	---	---	---
Belgium 3/	75	77	88	84	74	8.9	8.6	10.0	9.7	8.6	664	661	879	817	632
Denmark	---	17	2	2	4	---	12.5	13.6	21.0	---	---	235	25	51	---
Finland	3/4/9	5/5	6/4	---	---	---	5/10.0	5.6	---	---	---	5/52	25	---	---
France 3/	92	121	141	143	130	5.0	5.7	6.5	9.6	---	464	685	921	1,378	---
Germany, West 3/	5/45	14	8	7	---	5/10.6	12.2	10.7	10.2	---	5/476	173	88	67	---
Greece	---	6	10	---	---	---	7.7	4.0	---	---	79	51	39	---	---
Italy 3/	30	45	39	35	---	6.7	10.0	10.0	10.1	---	202	456	392	353	---
Netherlands 3/	42	70	80	79	55	13.0	12.1	13.4	13.3	13.9	546	850	1,073	1,049	768
Spain 3/	5/3	30	27	40	---	5/4.2	5.3	---	---	---	5/13	179	---	---	---
Sweden	---	45	2	4	4	---	15.6	17.7	15.0	13.1	---	722	39	63	55
United Kingdom	5/2	19	2	1	---	---	17.0	---	---	---	---	328	---	---	---
Yugoslavia 3/	33	25	26	22	---	1.6	.9	.6	---	---	52	20	16	---	---
Estimated total 7/	346	480	431	430	385	---	---	---	---	---	2,610	4,430	3,660	4,065	4,105
Estimated total, Other Europe 7/	295	639	680	700	690	---	---	---	---	---	2,693	5,000	5,380	5,330	5,385
Estimated total, all Europe (excluding U.S.S.R.) 7/	641	1,119	1,111	1,130	1,075	---	---	---	---	---	5,303	9,430	9,040	9,395	9,490
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 3/	5/6,434	4,621	4,694	5,906	---	5/5.1	---	---	---	---	5/32,115	---	---	---	---

FLAXSEED (cont'd)															
Asia:															
Turkey 3/8/	48	98	69	68	72	7.3	9.1	10.2	8.0	8.8	349	898	709	543	630
India 8/9/10/	3,885	3,486	3,354	3,781	3,758	4.7	4.2	4.6	4.4	3.7	18,096	14,760	15,280	16,560	13,960
Pakistan 10/	---	72	76	76	78	---	6.8	7.4	7.4	7.7	---	455	560	560	600
Japan 3/8/	50	44	39	39	39	4.2	3.7	3.6	2.9	3.4	211	160	142	110	134
Estimated total, (excluding U.S.S.R. and China) 7/	4,075	3,935	3,780	4,205	4,190	---	---	---	---	---	18,925	16,680	17,155	18,235	15,785
South America:															
Argentina	6,077	1,656	1,097	2,592	8/3,608	9.8	10.9	8.5	9.4	9.7	59,571	17,888	9,370	24,408	35,000
Brazil	---	---	90	91	---	---	---	10.9	11.6	---	---	893	984	1,063	1,180
Chile 3/	11/5	16	15	19	---	11/8.2	12.4	12.3	---	---	11/37	195	186	---	---
Uruguay	407	8/384	8/277	8/324	8/340	9.6	9.9	7.3	8.5	---	3,894	3,711	2,020	2,756	---
Estimated total 7/	6,570	2,145	1,480	3,105	4,120	---	---	---	---	---	64,035	22,690	12,560	28,420	39,280
Africa:															
Algeria	---	10	4	---	---	---	6.5	8.4	---	---	---	66	32	---	---
Egypt 3/	7	9	16	21	11	12.4	14.8	14.8	15.5	---	87	127	231	322	---
Morocco	51	175	114	---	82	7.1	6.2	4.8	---	4.9	362	1,103	551	---	396
Estimated total 7/	65	280	340	330	305	---	---	---	---	---	500	2,840	2,885	2,930	2,680
Oceania:															
Australia 12/	(13/)	31	48	114	126	---	7.4	10.5	7.4	7.0	(13/)	252	500	840	880
New Zealand	1	15	---	---	---	14.2	19.1	---	---	---	17	269	---	---	---
Estimated total 7/	1	46	56	121	134	---	---	---	---	---	17	521	681	990	1,030
Estimated world total	19,560	17,580	18,305	23,420	24,575	---	---	---	---	---	133,505	120,495	123,705	168,655	143,800

1/ Harvests of the Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere countries in 1957 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which begins late in 1957 and ends early in 1958. Estimates do not include China where annual production probably varies from 1 to 2 million bushels. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Acreage includes area for fiber. 4/ Flax and hemp. 5/ Average of less than 5 years. 6/ Acreage for seed only. 7/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 8/ Sown area. 9/ Officially reported figures plus Indian official estimates for unreported tracts for 1935-39 only. Estimates for unreported tracts for 1950-57 not available. 10/ Prior to 1945 figures for India include Pakistan. 11/ 1935 only. 12/ Flax grown for seed only. 13/ Less than 500.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U. S. Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

Early indications are that South America may produce over one-third more flaxseed this year than last, principally because of favorable prospects in Argentina. The harvest in Argentina is expected to be considerably larger than last year's outturn. Recent rains reportedly have benefited the crop to the extent that the early forecast of about 35 million bushels is still valid. A crop of this volume would exceed 1956 production by over 40 per cent and would be the largest outturn since 1947 when 35.5 million bushels were harvested. Brazil's production forecast indicates an increase of about 10 per cent from 1956.

WORLD PEANUT PRODUCTION AGAIN AT ALL-TIME HIGH

World production of peanuts in 1957 is forecast by the Foreign Agricultural Service at an all-time high of 14.4 million short tons, unshelled basis. This volume of production represents an increase of 4 per cent from the previous record outturn of 1956 and an increase of 25 per cent from the 1950-54 average.

The estimated expansion of 550,000 tons from 1956 is attributed to record crops in 3 of the 4 major producing countries--India, French West Africa and Nigeria. In China, which ranks second to India as a peanut producer, the 1957 crop is believed to have declined significantly.

A modest decline in North American peanut production resulted from smaller crops in the United States and Mexico. Production in the United States is estimated at 752,000 tons, down 6 per cent from 1956. Acreage picked and threshed in the United States was 11 per cent larger than last year, but dry weather in the growing season in some areas and late rains, excessive in some sections, reduced yields. Mexico's smaller crop is attributed to reduced acreage.

A slight decline in production is estimated for Asia because the gain foreseen in India only partially offsets the decrease that is believed to have occurred in China. India's crop is estimated unofficially at a record 4.8 million tons, 5 per cent larger than the near-record harvest of 1956. High prices of peanuts and peanut oil prevailing throughout calendar 1956 were an incentive to increase acreage in 1957. Production prospects are good this year in all states except Bombay (including Saurashtra and the Kutch), where the crop has been affected by dry weather.

In China, acreage is believed to have declined in the major producing areas and the weather is reported to have been unfavorable. Consequently, production is believed to have declined--possibly 15 per cent. Estimates of China's peanut production during the last 3 years have been revised from those previously published.

Burma's peanut production is up slightly from 1956. The Government has encouraged an increase this year, especially since India has embargoed exports of peanut oil--an important item in the Burmese diet. Consequently, some land was used for peanuts that might otherwise have been planted to tobacco. Indonesia's 1957 peanut production increased one-fifth from 1956.

The South American peanut crop, harvested largely from March to May, increased almost one-fifth from the previous year. Argentina's production at 350,000 tons was an all-time high. With good prices and high yields tending to make this crop popular in Argentina, acreage now being planted for the 1957-58 crop is expected to be the largest of record. Brazil's crop was down 13 per cent from last year.

Peanut production in Africa will be up sharply this year if present favorable prospects in French West Africa and Nigeria materialize. In French West Africa total production may reach 1.6 million tons, almost one-fifth larger than last year's record. This volume of output would exceed French and French Union requirements. The commercial crop is tentatively forecast at 1.1 million tons compared with 0.9 million tons last year. Rains in June and July were slightly less than normal, but since August the weather has been very favorable. Every available means reportedly has been used to increase acreage and production this year.

The weather in Nigeria has been exceptionally favorable and a bumper peanut crop is predicted. Total production is forecast at almost 1.4 million tons (in shell basis) compared with 875,000 tons in 1956. Commercial output (peanuts sold for crushing or export) is forecast at about 730,000 short tons, shelled basis, compared with 400,000 tons sold commercially from the 1956 crop. The quality of Nigerian peanuts is improving. For example, special grade peanuts (containing 70 per cent or more of whole nuts) increased to over 40 per cent of total sales in 1956-57 compared to only 2 per cent of the total sales in 1955-56.

No significant changes have been reported for other African countries except the Union of South Africa where 1957 production is down about one-fifth from 1956.

(Table on following pages)

PEANUTS 1/: Acreage and production in specified countries and the world, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1955-57

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Production				
	Average		1955	1956	1957 3/	Average		1955	1956	1957 3/
	1935-39	1950-54				1935-39	1950-54			
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
North America:										
Mexico	33	136	148	136	124	12.2	78.1	89.5	82.7	71.6
United States	1,659	1,718	1,699	1,385	1,536	614.7	763.2	774.0	801.1	752.0
Cuba	---	4/33	30	40	43	4/8.4	5.5	8.8	11.9	12.9
Dominican Republic	---	4/68	116	67	---	4/3.8	18.5	25.5	50.0	---
Estimated total 5/	1,740	1,960	2,000	1,635	1,710	640.0	867.5	900.0	948.0	888.5
Europe:										
Italy	4/2	11	13	13	---	1.6	9.0	11.3	11.0	---
Spain	6/24	20	25	---	---	6/23.3	12.1	20.2	15.4	---
Estimated total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 5/	35	45	50	55	55	28.0	28.0	39.5	34.0	33.5
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	4/29	21	2	(7/)	(7/)	---	---	---	(7/)	(7/)
Asia:										
Turkey	6/3	11	15	20	30	4/1.9	11.5	11.0	19.0	27.6
Burma	784	726	802	813	860	192.2	189.5	229.8	228.5	235.2
China, Mainland	4/3,769	---	---	---	---	4/3,034.4	8/2,853.0	8/2,950.0	8/3,300.0	8/2,800.0
India	7,535	11,830	12,692	13,101	14,000	3,295.7	3,801.3	4,325.4	4,576.3	4,816.0
Indonesia	9/572	714	737	757	741	289.1	346.4	342.1	316.8	380.3
Japan	4/19	59	64	79	80	14.6	33.3	54.2	57.4	59.5
Philippines	18	62	71	---	---	4.7	15.6	19.8	19.7	17.5
Taiwan (Formosa)	76	210	237	259	---	32.4	67.1	73.4	89.3	---
Thailand	---	181	198	195	---	---	84.8	103.7	104.5	---
Estimated total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 5/	12,835	17,995	19,920	20,900	21,565	6,895.0	7,424.0	8,143.0	8,741.5	8,558.5

PEANUTS (cont'd)										
South America:										
Argentina	4/207	336	368	483	563	87.3	154.4	130.1	238.3	350.5
Brazil	---	339	411	404	425	6/14.8	160.2	204.9	199.4	173.1
Paraguay	4/29	31	26	26	---	4/19.4	11.5	10.5	10.5	---
Uruguay	5	18	19	20	19	1.2	5.6	5.6	8.9	5.0
Estimated total 5/	320	750	865	975	1,080	128.5	341.5	364.0	471.5	555.0
Africa:										
Belgian Congo (incl. Ruanda Urundi)	250	732	749	761	768	66.9	201.4	193.3	201.7	209.4
Tanganyika	4/277	188	---	---	---	10/23.4	10/32.0	---	---	---
Uganda	4/156	340	426	---	---	6/78.3	183.8	201.6	---	---
Gambia	---	4/215	---	---	---	11/58.1	73.9	95.0	97.4	100.8
Egypt	23	29	35	36	---	17.2	23.3	31.3	32.0	---
French Equatorial Africa	4/10/91	4/435	395	---	---	4/10/17.6	101.0	143.4	187.4	187.4
French Cameroons	4/279	321	---	---	---	36.0	90.4	---	71.6	75.0
French West Africa	6/3,185	3,070	3,365	---	---	6/785.0	912.5	1,140.0	1,350.0	1,600.0
Madagascar	14	55	86	---	---	6.6	20.5	25.4	25.4	---
Mozambique	---	---	---	---	---	11/42.9	19.5	25.0	25.0	---
Nigeria and British Cameroons	---	---	3,500	---	---	4/600.0	843.0	1,100.0	875.0	1,370.0
Angola	18	---	---	---	---	6.2	4/11/4.7	11/3.3	11/5.3	---
Portuguese Guinea	---	---	---	---	---	11/28.0	10/36.7	11/29.2	11/40.9	---
Rhodesias and Nyasaland	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	135.0	150.0	157.5
Sudan	43	83	144	156	156	8.1	30.0	36.7	47.4	47.7
Union of South Africa	56	445	---	---	---	12.0	96.0	213.2	235.5	186.0
Estimated total 5/	7,360	9,280	10,770	10,935	11,145	1,850.0	2,813.0	3,567.5	3,673.0	4,389.0
Oceania:										
Australia	4/14	21	40	34	---	4/6.1	12.8	20.8	16.2	9.9
Estimated total 5/	15	22	41	35	30	6.5	13.5	21.5	17.0	10.5
Estimated world total	22,334	30,073	33,648	34,535	35,585	9,563.4	11,497.5	13,036.5	13,885.0	14,435.0

1/ Peanuts in the shell. Southern Hemisphere peanut crops, which are harvested from April to June, are combined with those of the Northern Hemisphere harvested from September through December of the same year. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Average of less than 5 years. 5/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 6/ One year only. 7/ Less than 500. 8/ Unofficial estimate. 9/ Java and Madura only. 10/ Commercial crop. 11/ Exports.

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